MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___ no ____

Property Name: 843 National Highway	Inventory Number	er: AL-V-B-004	
Address: 843 National Highway	City: LaVale	Zip Code: 21	1502
County: Allegany US	GS Topographic Map:	Cumberland Quadrangle	
Owner: Unknown			
Tax Parcel Number:Tax Map Number:	Tax Account ID 1	Number:	
Project: LaVale Cellular Tower Site	Agency: FC	С	
Site visit by MHT Staff: X no yes	Name: N/A	Date: N/A	
Eligibility recommended X	Eligibility not	recommended	
Criteria: A B X C D	Considerations:A	BCDEF	GNone
Is the property located within a historic district?	noX_yes Name	of district: LaVale Potential NR	Eligible Dist.
Is district listed? X no yes Determined	eligible?no _X_yes	District Inventory Number	: Unknown
Documentation on the property/district is presented			
Description of Property and Eligibility Determination	On: (Use continuation sheet if ne	cessary and attach map and photo)	
Description of Property			
A Maryland Historical Trust Survey form of dwelling located on the north side of US Route 40. attached to it. The brick masonry of the front elevan narrow frames. Brick chimneys within the end wall trim has been added around the front door. A two-sused as an office.	It has a one story shed extention is laid in common books are finished with corbell	ension at the rear, with a later ad nd. Windows have six over six p ed tops. Since 1975, new semi-	dition after 1975 panes within
Eligibility Determination			
The house appears to date from the mid 19 indicates construction after 1840. Although altered Dating from ca. 1850, the house is representative of original route to a new path through The Narrows in potential National Register eligible Historic District be eligible within a potential LaVale Historic District architecture associated with the National Road.	the essential character, in construction the portion on the 1830s. The property for LaVale in 1986 (map	naterials and form of the house r of the National Pike that was relow is located within one of the area attached). Therefore, this house	remain intact. ocated from its as identified as a
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	RESOURCE 1	WITHIN LAVALE NR-EL	IGIBLE HD
	30TIVE Eligibility not reconsiderations:	commended	
Comments: REPLACE THE STATE OF TOTAL THE STATE OF T	DINDOWS 3	B C D E F Doctor Story Stor	G None
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Service		Al Kizaci	No No
Blutz		Date	or
Reviewer, NR program		Date	

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

AL-V-B-004

Continuation Sheet No. 1

Historic Context

The seemingly forbidding mountainous region of western Maryland was opened for settlement by the proprietary of Maryland in 1734. The lure of iron ore, wood, agricultural land and later, coal, as well as access to the western lands beyond the mountain ranges, fueled the settlement of the region through the 18th and 19th centuries.

Agriculture in the rugged mountainous area later known as Allegany County was concentrated primarily in the bottomland along the many small streams. As in neighboring Washington County, grain farming, with the consequent development of grist and flournills, was the primary focus of production on these farms. Also important was logging and lumber production in the wooded mountainous terrain. The agricultural prosperity of the region led to its being served by important transportation routes, a good system of turnpikes, the National Road, C&O Canal and the B&O and Western Maryland railroads.

In 1806 the Thomas Jefferson administration began the construction of a federal highway that would lead to the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase lands comprising most of the central portion of the United States. The "National Road" began in Cumberland, Maryland and led to Wheeling in Virginia (West Virginia) and later on to Terre Haute, Indiana. It followed the old Braddock Road, a rough wagon track established by explorers and traders, and traveled by General Braddock in 1754.

The main wagon road from Baltimore to Cumberland, a collection of privately owned and operated turnpike segments, was eventually upgraded and consolidated to become part of the National Road. The National Road became one of the most heavily traveled east-west routes in America with traffic passing all hours of the day and night. Stagecoaches, freight wagons, herds of swine, geese and cattle headed to market, plus individual traffic passed along the pike. Taverns, inns and hotels were an important part of the travel-generated economy. Also important were blacksmith shops, wagon shops, and leather and harness shops.

In 1831, management of the National Road was turned over by the Federal government to the states. To mitigate the cost of maintenance, the Maryland legislature authorized two tollgates along the road which had, up until that time, been free. The distinctive octagon-shaped tollhouse was erected approximately seven miles west of Cumberland.

By the 1830s, the constant heavy traffic on the National Road had caused considerable damage to the road surface. The decision was made to macadamize the surface. At the same time, the section of the road leading out of Cumberland west was re-routed off the old Braddock road, by way of Mechanic Street through 'The Narrows' north of Haystack Mountain. Continuing along the narrow valley on the west side of the mountain, the new route reconnected with the original road near the tavern known as the Six Mile House. One mile east of the old tavern, a new tavern was established on the new section, known as the Five Mile House. The new route allowed a substantially reduced grade through the Haystack Mountain area and was soon followed by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.

The traffic on the pike waned after the mid 19th century when good rail service was established to Cumberland and competition developed from the C&O Canal. Writing in 1882, J. Thomas Scharf described the road as dusty and untraveled.³ Activity on the road did not pick up again until the early 20th century when the advent of the automobile once again increased traffic. US Route 40, the Old National Road, became a major transcontinental route by the 1920s.

Cumberland at the turn of the 20th century was at its height. The network of railroads radiating from Cumberland which had begun to take shape in the 1840s and 1850s, along with the development of the C&O Canal, stimulated the mining boom of coal and iron ore in the second half of the 19th century in western Maryland.⁴ In 1914, National Road traveler Robert

¹ Scharf. p. 1332.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid, p. 1333.

⁴ Donna M. Ware. Green Glades and Sooty Gob Piles, Crownsville: Maryland Historical Trust, 1991, p. 22-28.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

MV-15-004

Continuation Sheet No. 2

Bruce described the city as the second largest in Maryland at a population of 23,000, second only to Baltimore. ⁵ The well-developed network of roads and rails enhanced suburban growth around the city.

Local real estate entrepreneur, David P. Miller, took advantage of both road and rail and the narrow valley just west of 'The Narrows.' In 1909, Miller purchased a piece of land along the National Road near the Five Mile House tavern; he named the half-mile long section "La Vale," according to local historians. Tourist postcards from 1910 and 1912 showed substantial American Four Square single-family houses with elegant Colonial Revival porches lining the National Road frontage; the postcards were titled "La Vale, Suburb, Cumberland, Md." As the importance of the old National Road (US Route 40) grew in the 1920s and '30s as a tourism route, LaVale continued to grow with the addition of Bungalow style houses.

At the same time, the importance of agricultural production, particularly grains, began to wane in western Maryland. The very railroads which drove the growth of the mining industry, also allowed the development of agriculture in the midwestern states. The family farms of Allegany County converted to orchard or dairy production, or more commonly, survived as subsistence farms.

Despite the resurgence of the National Road experienced in the first half of the 20th century with the growing dominance of the automobile, continued growth of traffic and the needs of the trucking industry proved to be the ultimate downfall of the route. Improvements to Route 40 included a by-pass of the Narrows and LaVale. Now Interstate Route 68 parallels the old National Road, carrying the bulk of the east-west traffic.

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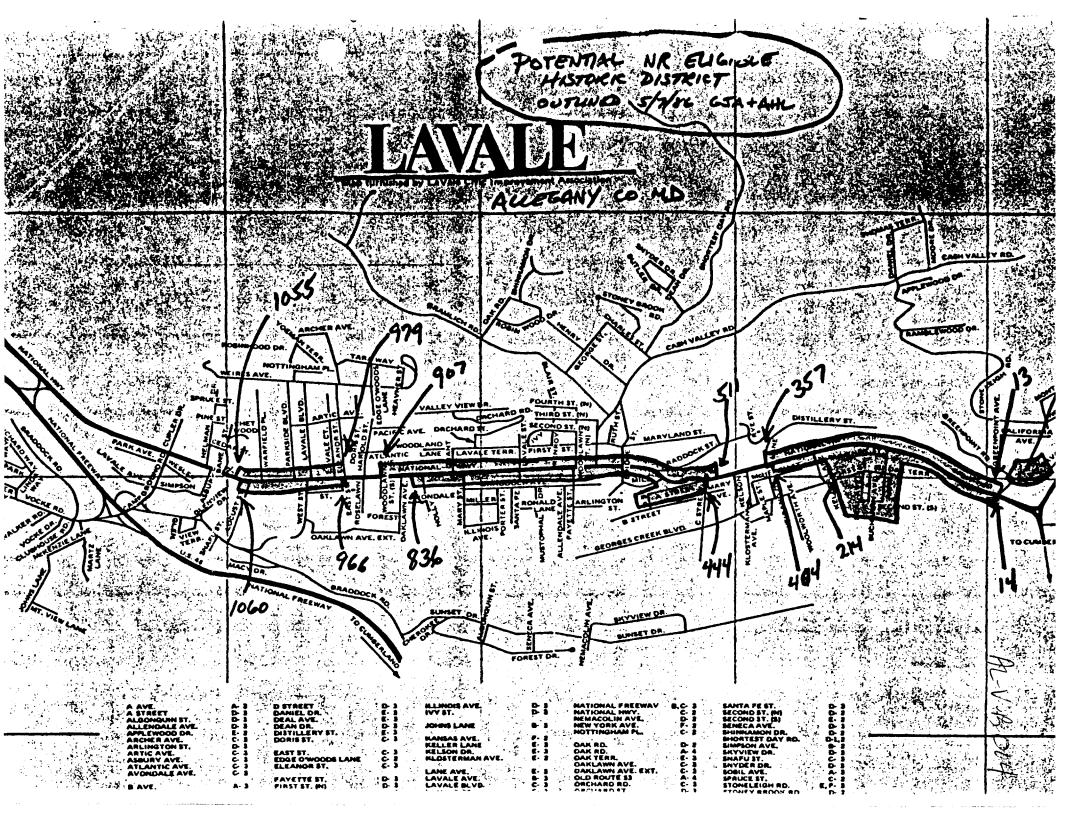
Prepared by: Paula S. Reed, Ph.D. Date Prepared Feb., 2001

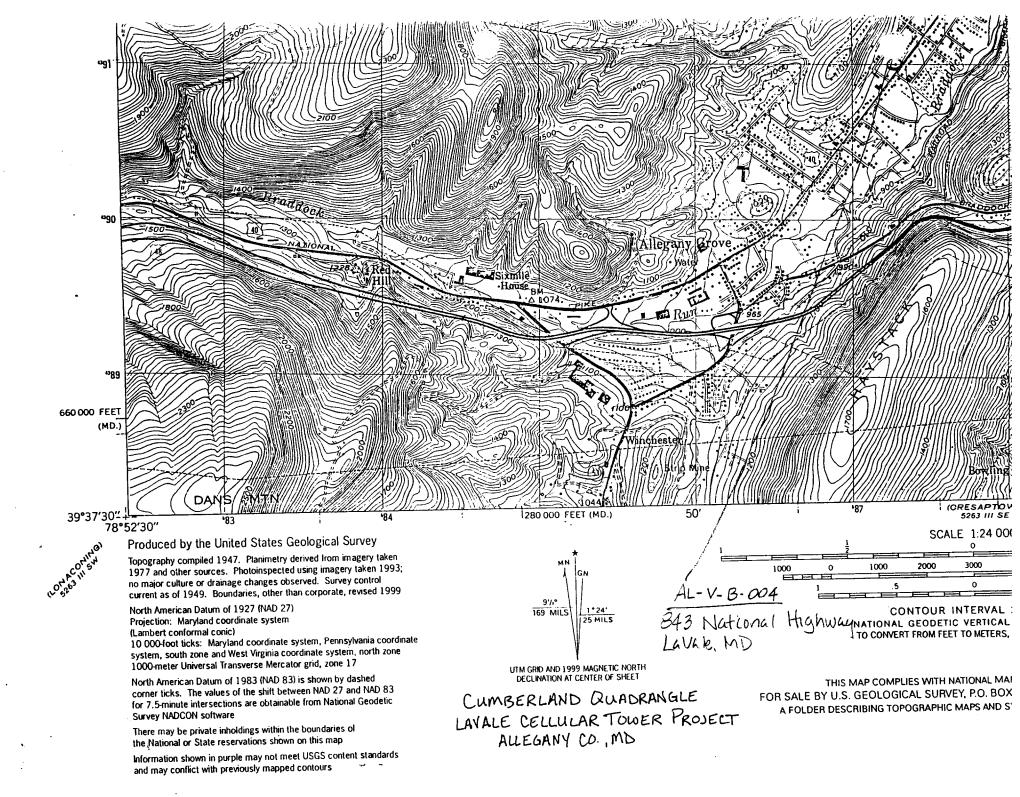
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⁵ Robert Bruce, "*The National Road*," (National Highway Association, 1916; as reproduced on http://www.rootsweb.com/~mdallegn/national.htm, 2001)

⁸ Albert L. Feldstein, Feldstein's Historic Postcard Album of Allegany County, (Cumberland, MD: Commercial Press Printing Co., 1983), p. 56.







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HSTORIC SITE OR'S

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM

for the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1.	NAME COMMON:					
	843 National Highwand And OR Historic:	way				
2.	LOCATION		•			
مانت	STREET AND NUMBER:	_				
	843 National High	way (U.S. Ro	oute 40)			
	CITY OR TOWN:					
	LaVale		Icc	UNTY:		
	Maryland		i	Allegany	r	
3.	CLASSIFICATION			<i></i>		
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	Agricultural Go	overnment [Pork		Transportotian	Comments
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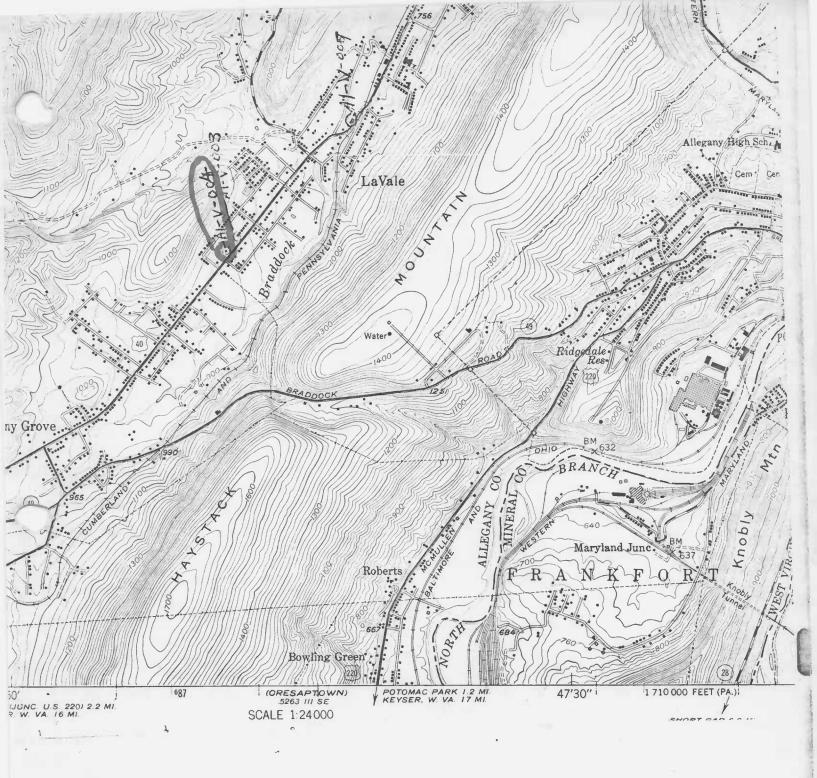
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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES Allegany County Land Records, Courthouse, Cumberland, Maryland. 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES R CORNER LATITUDE LONGITUDE LATITUDE LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds Degrees Minutes Seconds Degrees Minutes Seconds Degrees Minutes Seconds NW NE SΕ APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Acreage Justification: The property measures approximately 58' x 390'. 11. FORM PREPARED BY NAME AND TITLE: Ronald L. Andrews, Historic Site Survey DATE 6/9/75 Tri-County Council for Western Maryland, Inc. STREET AND NUMBER: Algonquin Motor Inn, Suite 510 CITY OR TOWN: Maryland Cumberh nd 12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only) Significance of this property is: National [Local [State 🔲

Signature



Cumberland, MD - PA - WV Quad U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute series 1949

scale 1:24000

Site #: Al-V-004

843 National Highway

LaVale



Howe 843 National Highway La Vale allegary Co., Md. SE bian May, 1975

RONALD L. ANDREWS